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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/871,468	05/31/2001	Ichiro Fukunishi	55973/70904	1525

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 08/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/871,468

Applicant(s)

FUKUNISHI, ICHIRO

Examiner

HOAN C. NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-10 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-6, 11-16 and 21-30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-10 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 7-10 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsueda (US5173792A).

In regard to claims 7 and 17, Matsueda teaches (Fig. 11) a liquid crystal display device comprising:

- gate wiring Y_n and source wiring X_n disposed in a lattice state;
- a switching element 140A/B provided on each lattice point;
- a pixel electrode 141 to be connected to a drain electrode 144/174 of the switching element;
- an auxiliary capacitance electrode 160 which is formed in the same manufacturing process as the gate wiring Y_{n-1} and disposed in parallel with the gate wiring so as to form a storage capacitance which is serially connected to the pixel electrode;
- electrodes 170A-C which are disposed in parallel on said auxiliary capacitance electrode at different portions at an extension portion of the drain electrode of the switching element in an extending direction via pixel electrode and connected to

each other via a coupling portion to connect with the drain electrode through pixel electrode, and a branch coupling portion which branches off from the coupling portion in-between;

wherein

- said electrodes disposed in parallel are connected to the pixel electrodes via through holes 165 which are respectively formed in a layer insulating film 148 and stacked via the auxiliary capacitance electrode and insulating film so as to respectively form the storage capacitances;

and, according to claim 17,

- a method, when a short circuit/or defect occurs between either one of the two electrodes and the auxiliary capacitance electrode, comprising the steps of:
 - laser-cutting the coupling portion or branch coupling portion that is connected to the electrode on a short-circuited side off; and electrically disconnecting the electrode on the short-circuited side from the pixel electrode (col. 15 lines 62-68).

Regard to claims 8 and 18, Matsueda teaches (Fig. 11) a liquid crystal display device, wherein the coupling portion and the branch coupling portion are respectively made of thin lines.

Regards to claims 9 and 19, Matsueda teaches (Fig. 11) a liquid crystal display device wherein the two electrodes are pad electrodes 170A-C, respectively.

Regards to claims 10 and 20, Matsueda teaches (Fig. 11) a liquid crystal display device, wherein the switching element is a thin film transistor.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on June 28, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's ONLY arguments are follows:

Matsueda fails to disclose electrodes that are disposed in parallel at two different portions of an extension the drain electrode (that is a single extension).

Examiner's responses to Applicants' ONLY arguments are follows:

Matsueda discloses electrodes (170A-C) that are disposed in parallel at two different portions of an extension of the drain electrode. The pixel electrode 141, which is connected to the drain electrode, should be or act like an extension of the drain electrode. This pixel electrode (or an extension of the drain electrode) is branched off to connect to the different portions via a coupling portion with the contact hole 165.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HOAN C. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 306-0472. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY:8:00AM-4:30PM.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0530.

HOAN C. NGUYEN
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

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August 1, 2003


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